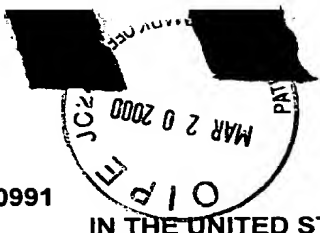


AF/GAU 3644



CUSTOMER NO.: 020991

PATENT
Docket No. PD-96315

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Kar W. Yung et al.
Serial No. 08/949,988
Filed: October 14, 1997
For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MAXIMIZING SATELLITE
CONSTELLATION COVERAGE

Date: March 13, 2000

Group Art Unit: 3644

Examiner: Tien Dinh

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AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER

ATTN: BOX AF
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

____ Applicant petitions for an extension of time for months(s) to respond to the Office Action dated _____. If an additional extension of time is required, please consider this a petition therefor.

____ An extension for _____ months(s) has already been secured; the fee paid therefor of _____ is deducted from the total fee due for the total months of extension now requested. _____
Extension fee due with this request \$ _____

☒ Applicant believes that no extension of time is required to respond to the Office Action dated February 10, 2000. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition for extension of time.

☒ No additional fee for claims is required.

____ The fee for claims has been calculated as shown below:

| CLAIMS AS AMENDED | | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|------------------|------------|-------------------|--|--|--|
| CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT | HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR | PRESENT EXTRA | RATE | ADDITIONAL FEE | | | |
| TOTAL CLAIMS | minus * | = 0 | x \$ 18.00 | \$ _____ | | | |
| INDEPENDENT CLAIMS | minus ** | = 0 | x \$ 78.00 | \$ _____ | | | |
| MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS | | + | \$ 260.00 | \$ _____ | | | |
| TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT: | | | | \$ -0- | | | |

Charge \$-0- to Deposit Account No. 50-0383 of Hughes Electronics Corporation, El Segundo, California. Please charge any additional fees for claims or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0383. If any additional extension fee is required, please charge to Deposit Account No. 50-0383. **This form is submitted in triplicate.**

Respectfully submitted,

Bradley K. Lortz, Reg. P. 45,472
Attorney for Applicant(s),
(filed under 37 CFR 1.34(a))

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Washington, DC 20231 on March 13, 2000.

HUGHES ELECTRONICS CORPORATION
Patent Docket Administration

Bldg. 001, M/S A109
PO Box 956
El Segundo, CA 90245-0956
Telephone: (310) 662-9920
Date: March 13, 2000

Bradley K. Lortz, Reg. P. 45,472

* If less than 20, insert 20
** If less than 3, insert 3



PATENT
PD-96315

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: : Date: March 13, 2000
Kar W. Yung et al. :
Serial No.: 08/949,988 : Group Art Unit: 3644
Filed: October 14, 1997 : Examiner: Tien Dinh
For: Method and System for Maximizing :
Satellite Constellation Coverage :

Attn: BOX AF
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

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AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated February 10, 2000, rejecting 1 – 19 in the above-identified patent application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE FIGURES

Please add Figure 8 as submitted.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 15 as follows:

1. (TWICE AMENDED) A method for maximizing satellite constellation coverage at predetermined local times for a set of predetermined geographic locations. the method comprising: